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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 L-03 PA-02 ICA-20 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AF-10
ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 /122 W
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FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 948
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS TUNIS 3176

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PORG, TS
SUBJ: OAU LABOR MINISTERS CONFERENCE: RESOLUTION ON
ILO STRUCTURE

REF: TUNIS 3060

1. FOLLOWING IS PURPORTED TEXT OF FINAL RESOLUTION ON ILO STRUCTURE PASSED APRIL 22 BY OAU LABOR MINISTERS CONFERENCE (THIRD SESSION OF OAU LABOR COMMISSION). THIS WAS OBTAINED BY FRIENDLY DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN TUNIS FROM ILO IN GENEVA. FINAL RESOLUTIONS STILL REMAIN UNAVAILABLE IN TUNIS, DESPITE REPEATED REQUESTS TO CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT FROM THIS AND OTHER EMBASSIES.

2. QUOTE. OAU LABOUR COMMISSION MEETING IN ITS THIRD ORDINARY SESSION IN TUNIS, TUNISIA, FROM APRIL 18-21,
RECALLING RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON THIS FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE IN LIBREVILLE (1975) FREETOWN (1976) TRIPOLI (1977) AND RATIFIED BY OAU ASSEMBLIES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT,
CONSIDERING WORK OF STRUCTURE COMMISSION OF 63RD SESSION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE (GENEVA, JUNE 1977) AND PARTICULARLY DECLARATION OF "GROUP OF 77" ON THIS OCCASION,
HAVING EXAMINED REPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY GENERAL ON
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STRUCTURE OF ILO,
HAVING CONSIDERED REPORT OF AFRICAN GOVERNMENT MEMBERS OF GOVERNING BODY OF ILO,
CONSIDERING WORK DONE BY WORKING GROUP RE-APPOINTED DURING ITS 6TH AND 7TH MEETINGS HELD IN GENEVA FROM OCTOBER 31 TO NOVEMBER 5, 1977 AND FROM FEBRUARY 13 TO 18,
CONSIDERING ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL'S EXPLANATIONS ON THIS ISSUE

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IN HIS STATEMENT TO THIRD SESSION OF OAU LABOUR COMMISSION AND
MORE PARTICULARLY PROGRESS MADE IN PROCEEDINGS OF WORKING GROUP
ON ILO STRUCTURE,
CONSIDERING MARKED CHANGES WHICH TOOK PLACE IN WORLD, FOLLOWING
PROGRESS MADE BY NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA AND
ACHIEVEMENT OF INDEPENDENCE BY PEOPLE OF THIRD WORLD,
FURTHER CONSIDERING THAT PRESENT STRUCTURE OF ILO IS NOT YET
ADAPTED TO CHANGES WHICH TOOK PLACE IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL
ARENA,
A. REAFFIRMS URGENT NEED TO DEMOCRATIZE FURTHER ILO SO AS TO
MAKE IT CONSISTENT WITH NEW INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL REALITIES
AND DEEP ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF THIRD WORLD FOR A FAIRER
NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER;
B. COMMENDS VIGILANCE OF AFRICAN MEMBER OF WORKING PARTY AND
THEIR EFFORTS TO PROTECT INTEREST OF AFRICAN CONTINENT;
C. WELOCMES CONSENSUS THAT HAVE BEEN REACHED IN WORKING PARTY
ON STRUCTURE CONCERNING
(1) ABOLITION OF VETO POWER OF SO-CALLED STATES OF CHIEF
INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE FOR AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION OF ILO,
AND (2) MODIFICATION OF QUORUM RULE OF CONFERENCE.
D. NOTES POSITION THAT HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY AFRICAN MEMBERS AND
GROUP OF 77 CONCERNING ARTICLE 7 OF ILO CONSTITUTION: THAT
(1) ALL SEATS IN GOVERNING BODY SHALL BE ELECTIVE;
(2) GOVERNMENT SEATS OF GOVERNING BODY SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED
ON AN EQUITABLE BASIS AMONG VARIOUS GROUPS--AND SEATS ALLOCATED
TO EACH REGION AT PRESENT TIME SHALL NOT BE REDUCED. IF NECESSARY,
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TOTAL NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT SEATS COULD BE INCREASED TO 52
TO MAINTAIN REGIONAL BALANCE;
(3) NUMBERS OF ELECTORAL COLLEGES COULD BE FOUR, FOLLOWING
NORMAL REGIONAL DIVISION OF ACTIVITIES WITHIN ILO;
(4) EACH REGION SHALL BE FREE TO RE-ELECT A CERTAIN NUMBER OF
MEMBER STATES ON BASIS OF UNIVERSAL CRITERIA IN ORDER TO
ENSURE REPRESENTATIVITY IN GOVERNMING BODY AND CONTINUITY
IN ITS WORK.
E. REQUESTS ALL MEMBERS OF WORKING PARTY TO CONTINUE TO
ENSURE THAT AFRICAN INTERESTS ARE FULLY PROTECTED IN WORKING
PARTY AND THAT SEATS ALLOCATED TO AFRICA AT PRESENT SHALL NOT
BE REDUCED, BUT SHOULD BE INCREASED IF POSSIBLE.
F. REQUESTS ALL MEMBER STATES:
(1) TO KEEP UP THE DIALOGUE WITH ALL THOSE CONCERNED WITH VIEW
TO FINDING AN OVERALL AND REAL SOLUTION TO THIS IMPORTANT
ISSUE;
(2) TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT AND TAKE ALL INITIATIVES IN CONFORMITY
WITH PERTINENT RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED ON MATTER BY LABOUR
COMMISSION IN LIBREVILLE (1975) FREETOWN (1976) TRIPOLI (1977)
AND WITH STATEMENT OF GROUP OF 77 TO STRUCTURAL COMMITTEE
OF 63RD SESSION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE;
G. URGES ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY GENERAL:

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(1) TO FOLLOW UP THIS MATTER WITH GREATEST ATTENTION AND TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS IN ORDER TO ENSURE AN EFFECTIVE AND QUICK REALISATION;
(2) TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY AND SOLIDARITY OF AFRICAN GROUP DURING 64TH SESSION OF INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE ON THIS ISSUE;
(3) TO ENSURE, IN THIS RESPECT, AN ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF AFRICA IN ILO WITHIN "GROUP OF 77";
(4) TO REPORT ON THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE TO THE 4TH ORDINARY SESSION OF OAU LABOUR COMMISSION. UNQUOTE.

3. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO OTHER ADDRESSEES AS APPROPRIATE.
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